

they're entitled to special perks. Americans shouldn't be forced to pay for CEO bonuses and luxury corporate jets for the rich and famous robber barons.

But you see, Madam Speaker, they must need that jet to fly to New York Mets games because Citigroup is spending \$400 million to plaster its name on its new stadium, Citi Field.

And that's just the way it is.

CITIGROUP AND THEIR \$50 MILLION FRENCH-BUILT CORPORATE JET

(Mr. HALL of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HALL of New York. Madam Speaker, Citigroup did take more than \$45 billion in taxpayer-funded rescue money. And imagine the shock and outrage that I and many other Americans felt when we heard this week that Citigroup was buying a \$50 million French-built corporate jet.

Is there no shame? America is in the midst of a recession, with the highest unemployment in 16 years and the highest foreclosure rate in more than three decades. People all over the country are losing their jobs, their homes, their small businesses. And in the midst of all this, a company that the taxpayers are bailing out with our tax dollars is buying a plush corporate jet.

I voted to rescue the banks, reluctantly, for one reason and one reason only: to free up credit so that small businesses and individuals could have access to loans for essentials such as college tuition and home mortgages and the economy could keep running. A new private jet is not what I voted for.

Thankfully, pressure from Congress and the White House has forced Citigroup to cancel the purchase of this plane. But the incident is a glaring example of the blatant lack of accountability from banks seeking rescue money. It needs to stop. And I look forward to working with the new Treasury Secretary to correct this oversight and make it clear that explicit restrictions are placed on any rescue money used by the banks.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, there are 11 million unemployed Americans receiving a notice that says they owe taxes on their unemployment benefits and they'll have a huge bill due on April 15. After this scary realization, these folks will get on their phones or their computers to ask us where we think they are going to get the money to pay the additional tax.

As this Congress works to find ways to kick-start the economy, I propose we not kick these folks when they're

down and we eliminate the tax on unemployment insurance benefits for 2008 and 2009.

This economic stimulus ought to do this. The 1099 statements that are showing up in mailboxes to notify my constituents that they owe Federal taxes on their unemployment is just ridiculous. I'd want to be able to tell my constituents we're going to do something about this problem.

Let's go back to the drawing board and come together to really help the unemployed.

At this time I'd also want to say thank you and God bless to Kathleen Black, who is going from my staff to the Senate, one of the best tax persons in the Congress.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

(Mr. DRIEHAUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join students and families and educators across the country to mark this very important week, Catholic Schools Week.

For thousands of children in the United States, including my own, Catholic schools are laying the foundation for bright and successful futures while calling young people to service and fostering values that strengthen our families and our communities.

I want to congratulate three people in particular: Father Andrew Umberg, pastor of St. William Parish in Cincinnati; Lisa Driggers, a teacher at St. James School in Green Township; and Tim Otten, principal of Elder High School, my alma mater, who have all been honored this year by the National Catholic Education Association. This week we recognize them and other Catholic educators for their important contributions not only to education but to their community and to their country.

THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT: A MASSIVE GOVERNMENT-SPENDING BILL THAT WILL PLUNGE THE NATION DEEPER INTO DEBT

(Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, the American people are hurting and our economy is in recession.

Congress is right to take action to stimulate the economy, but the American people know that we cannot borrow and spend our way back to prosperity. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 is a massive and wasteful government spending bill that will not stimulate our economy but will recklessly plunge our Nation deeper and deeper into debt.

The deficit for the next 2 years is already projected to be \$2 trillion. If deficit spending were an effective eco-

nomics stimulus, then the economy would be on the verge of a recovery. But it isn't.

Congress can accelerate the process of economic recovery by passing legislation that will improve the incentives that drive economic activity. Lowering tax rates will create the incentives for individuals and businesses to save, to work, to invest their money.

Madam Speaker, the American people are hurting and they deserve a better proposal than this.

THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT WILL REVITALIZE THE ECONOMY

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I just listened to my friend from Colorado expound upon the problems of deficit spending. Well, he's absolutely right about the deficit spending from the Republican administration and Congress. They piled up debt with tax cuts for people who didn't need it, a reckless war in Iraq on a credit card.

This package that's coming before us today is actually doing something for the American people, investing in infrastructure and energy. It is looking to a plan for the recovery of the economy, using new technology and new ways of doing business, getting more value out of our investment.

I am pleased that the President reached out to the other side of the aisle even as their leaders were saying before the meeting they were against his package. But I am pleased, while he reached out, he was unwavering in his commitment that our package is going to focus on the people who need help the most, revitalizing the economy, and moving us forward.

I look forward to the passage today of this legislation and further refinement as we move it through Congress with our new administration.

DTV TRANSITION

(Mr. RADANOVICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the digital television delay bill that the House will be voting on under suspension today.

The bill needlessly delays the DTV transition date of February 17 and undermines the government's credibility with consumers and broadcasters who have prepared for the transition, as well as the private industry that is relying on the spectrum that they purchased to be available.

The bill also facilitates the need for \$650 million in the stimulus to be spent on the converter box coupon program but ironically does not get a single person off the coupon waiting list.

Finally, the bill prevents spectrum from being cleared for first responders and emergency communications.

Delaying the transition is confusing to our consumers, expensive for our broadcasters, will slow down deployment of broadband services, and has potentially dangerous implications for public safety. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to keep the digital transition on the right path and oppose Senate bill 238.

REMEMBERING THE 1969 SANTA BARBARA OIL SPILL

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, 40 years ago today, on January 28, 1969, a "blowout" erupted below Union Oil's Platform A 6 miles off the Santa Barbara coast. Before it was capped, more than 3 million gallons of oil spewed into the sea.

For weeks national attention was focused on the spill's disturbing, dramatic images: oil-soaked birds, unable to fly, slowly dying on the sand; 35 miles of sandy beaches coated with thick sludge; over 800 square miles of ocean covered with an oily black sheen.

I lived in Santa Barbara in 1969. I recall how our community came together to save wildlife and clean up our beaches. But the spill's impact went far beyond the ecological and economic damage to our community.

The disaster was considered to be a major factor in the birth of the modern-day environmental movement. There followed a wave of national environmental legislation, including the Clean Air and Water Acts, and laws to protect coastal areas and endangered species.

Now, after 40 years, as we still face the responsibility to protect and preserve our environment, we must never forget this important moment in our Nation's history and commit ourselves to speeding the transition to a clean energy economy.

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AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL FOR A CEREMONY IN HONOR OF THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE BIRTH OF PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to discharge the Committee on House Administration from further consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 27 and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 27

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That rotunda of the

United States Capitol is authorized to be used on February 12, 2009, for a ceremony in honor of the bicentennial of the birth of President Abraham Lincoln. Physical preparations for the conduct of the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1, AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 92 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 92

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1) making supplemental appropriations for job preservation and creation, infrastructure investment, energy efficiency and science, assistance to the unemployed, and State and local fiscal stabilization, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes. Further general debate shall be confined to the bill and amendments specified in this resolution and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules. Each such further amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such further amendments are waived except those arising under clause 9 of rule XXI. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

Sec. 2. The chair of the Committee on Appropriations shall insert in the Congressional Record not later than February 4, 2009, such material as he may deem explanatory of appropriations measures for the fiscal year 2009.

Sec. 3. The chair of the Committee on Ways and Means may file, on behalf of the Committee, a supplemental report to accompany H.R. 598.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, I rise to make a point of order against consideration of the rule.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his point of order.

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, I raise a point of order against consideration of the rule because the rule contains a waiver of all points of order against the provisions in the bill and amendments made in order by the rule and, therefore, it is in violation of section 426 of the Congressional Budget Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida makes a point of order that the resolution violates section 426(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

The gentleman has met the threshold burden to identify the specific language consisting of the waiver against amendments in the resolution on which the point of order is predicated. Such a point of order shall be disposed of by the question of consideration.

The gentleman from Florida and a Member opposed, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), each will control 10 minutes of debate on the question of consideration.

After that debate, the Chair will put the question of consideration, to wit: Will the House now consider the resolution?

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, thank you very much.

I will be using most of my arguments from the Congressional Budget Office cost estimate dated January 26, 2009. The CBO and the Joint Committee on Taxation estimated that enacting the provisions in division B would reduce revenues by \$76 billion in fiscal year 2009, by \$131 billion in fiscal year 2010, and by a net of \$212 billion over the 2009–2010 period.

So combining the spending and revenue effects of H.R. 1, the CBO estimates that enacting the bill would increase the Federal budget deficit by over \$170 billion over the remaining months of the fiscal year 2009, by \$356 billion in the year 2010 and \$174 billion in 2011, and it continues on, \$816 billion over the period 2009 to 2019.

There is a wide range of Federal programs here which increase the benefits payable under the Medicaid unemployment compensation nutrition assistance program, and the legislation would also reduce individual and corporate income tax collections and make a variety of other changes to tax laws. This is basically an unfunded mandate.

CBO anticipates that this bill would have a noticeable impact on economic growth and employment in the next few years. Following long-standing congressional budget procedures, this